



Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Water Quality Coordinating Committee Water Pollution Control Program

Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2003

WATER QUALITY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Columbia Environmental Research Center
4200 New Haven Road
Columbia, Missouri

February 18, 2003
10:00 a.m.

MEETING AGENDA

USGS Bacterial Contamination Report, Jerri Davis, USGS, WRD

Clean Water SRF Program Overview, Carrie Schulte, DNR, WPSCD, WPCP

Mark Twain National Forest Land Management Plan Revision,
Neil Babik, Mark Twain National Forest

Other

Agency Activities

Meetings & Conferences

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MINUTES

Attendees:

Becky Shannon	DNR/WPSCD/WPCP	Priscilla Stotts	DNR/WPSCD/WPCP
Bob Steiert	EPA Region VII	Frank McDaniels	DNR/WPSCD/PDWP
Bob Hentges	MO Public Utilities Alliance	Don Yoest	MO Dept of Agriculture
Tim Rielly	MDC	Cindi DeOrnellis	MO Dept of Agriculture
Bob Ball	USDA, NRCS	Dorris Bender	Independence Water Pollution
Charles Putnam	National Park Service	Wendi Rogers	UMC – FAPRI
Cindy DiStefano	MDC	Gail Wilson	DNR/WPSCD/WPCP
	USFS Mark Twain National		
Lori Wilson	Forest	Anne Peery	DNR/WPSCD/WPCP
Bob Williamson	KCMO Water Services	Terry Timmons	DNR/WPSCD/PDWP
Richard Gaskin	KCMO Water Services	Carrie Schulte	DNR/WPSCD/WPCP
Paul Andre	MO Dept. of Agriculture	R.M. Gaffney	DNR/GSRAD/WRP
Ken Struempf	DNR/WPSCD/SWCP	Darlene Schaben	DNR/WPSCD/WPCP
Claire Baffaut	UMC FAPRI	Becky Crowley	MO Forest Products Assoc.
John Knudsen	DNR/WPSCD/WPCP	Cory Ridenhour	MO Forest Products Assoc.

Introductions were made.

Jerri Davis was unable to attend, therefore, her presentation on the “USGS Bacterial Contamination Report” will be scheduled for the next meeting.

Clean Water SRF Program Overview, Carrie Schulte, DNR, WPSCD, WPCP (PowerPoint presentation)

Carrie explained that the Clean Water State Revolving Fund is federal funding for wastewater infrastructure and nonpoint source projects. The monies come from annual federal capitalization grants, state match, repayment fund and other federal grants. Carrie showed a chart with state and federal funding that has been available for projects since the program began in 1989. She circulated a booklet that included the FY04 Application and Instructions for Clean Water SRF and Drinking Water SRF. Carrie explained the different federally funded programs. They include leveraged loans, direct & interim direct loans, 60% direct loans for recipients that qualify for a 40% state grant, federal hardship grants, nonpoint source (NPS) direct loans for animal waste disposal systems, and NPS direct loans for Neighborhood Improvement Districts (NIDs). Over \$639 million has been awarded through federal capitalization grants to be used to for construction. Because of leveraging nearly \$1 billion has been actually loaned out. SRF has only been available to municipalities, counties, public water & public sewer districts, political subdivisions, and instrumentalities of the state. Now, NPS projects have been added and SRF can be made available to individuals, small business owners and others in the private sector. A booklet with the Clean Water SRF FY03 Intended Use Plan (IUP) and the state grant priority list was circulated. Carrie explained the application and review process. Project proposals are reviewed by the Missouri Water & Wastewater Review Committee (MWWRC). Members include DNR, Economic Development’s Community Development Block Grant Program and USDA Rural Development. Applications must be submitted by November 15. Priority Points are assigned according to state regulation.

The IUP shows detail of proposed distribution of the Clean Water SRF. The IUP must be approved by the Clean Water Commission. An application is only good for 2 years. If the project has not been funded within that time, the community must reapply. Each year a new IUP is drafted to show intended distribution of new and unused funds. The process for closing a loan was explained. The SRF loans are generally 20-year loans. Through the end of SFY 2002 the Missouri SRF has entered into a total of 301 binding commitments; 190 leveraged loans, 92 Missouri Agriculture & Small Business Development Authority (MASBDA) individual loans, and 19 direct loans. Of the 19 direct loans 4 have been closed via a leveraged loan for the same project. This type of loan is referred to as an interim direct loan, its purpose is to accelerate a project, the loan is paid in full upon origination of the leveraged loan. Of the 190 leveraged loans 5 have been paid in full. Through use of the SRF, Missouri communities have saved over \$350 million in interest in comparison to higher interest rates.

Mark Twain National Forest Land Management Plan Revision, Lori Wilson, Mark Twain National Forest (PowerPoint Presentation)

Lori presented information on the work to update the Forest Land Resource Management Plan, and their intent to address water quality issues within the Plan. The Plan establishes guidelines for the entire forest that include a statement of the “desired future conditions” as well as how to get to those desired conditions. The Notice of Intent is out for public comment. Comments are welcome. The Forest Service manages 1.5 million acres of land, which is mostly in southern Missouri. Lori showed a map locating the national forest lands in Missouri. The forest lands have caves, springs and streams. Recreation floating is the most popular activity in the forest lands, as well as sport fishing. The Forest Plan Management direction provides a means for proactive watershed management. Goals and desired future conditions are general statements of what the watershed should look like. One of the overall goals will be maintenance or improvement of properly functioning ecosystems. One objective is to maintain or improve the health and quality of the forest riparian areas and water quality. The current land management plan contains no well-defined desired future condition for forest riparian areas, streams, karst features and wetlands. The Forest riparian/watershed focus team identified six resource areas for which information and analysis processes that need to be developed: riparian areas, water quality, streams, karst features, wetlands and watershed condition. The Land Management Plan contains guidelines for the forest plan. There are over 500 caves in the Mark Twain National Forest. A watershed assessment was conducted to identify watershed conditions and priority watersheds.

Lori said they are required by national law to have a Forest Management Plan and to keep it updated. They have 23 months to get the plan revised. For more information about the plan or revisions, contact Laura Watts at (573) 341-7471, Lori Wilson at (573) 341-7414 or by email at ljwatts@fs.fed.us.

Other

Atrazine IRED - Paul Andre informed the group that the Notice of Availability of Interim Reregistration Eligibility Decision (IRED) for Atrazine will be published in the Federal Register soon. The address is www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/reregistration/atrazine/index.htm. On January 31, 2003, a News Release, Executive Summary and Questions & Answers were released. Once published, there will be a 60-day comment period. The IRED will increase regulation of atrazine on a watershed basis. The cost for increase of monitoring and education will be paid by the registrants. The four levels of monitoring and implementation are based on total chlorotriazines. Paul explained the one-strike and two-strike programs. Paul thought there would be 22 watersheds in the 2-strike program when it comes out and 2 watersheds in the one-strike program. There was talk about the one-strike program may not be fair because historical data would be used.

There is a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with EPA and 6 technical registrants of atrazine. Thus far, only Syngenta has signed the MOU. The IRED includes guidance for implementing label changes for products containing atrazine. Should a registrant fail to implement the IRED, registrations will be cancelled at the federal level.

Paul will send updated information to forward to the group when he learns of its availability on Internet. It was suggested this would be a good topic for the next meeting.

Lori Wilson said the Mark Twain National Forest will hold a series of public meetings beginning in April 2003. She didn't have the exact dates but thought they were on their web site: www.fs.fed.us/r9/marktwain.

Bob Ball said they invited livestock interest groups for a meeting to discuss how to help them meet the new CAFO regulations. Bob also mentioned that the watershed mapping (NHD) was recently completed. This was developed by USGS, COE and NRCS. These are 8-, 10- and 12-digit HUCs. The 14-digit HUC will no longer be used but would be replaced with the 12-digit numbers. They are still getting approval for more sophisticated mapping. It was suggested that this would be another possible agenda topic for the group.

Bob Steiert mentioned that MoRAP did a presentation on HUCs a few years ago. Three of the four Region 7 states will have this new mapping. In 2000, Missouri used HUC 12's, which Terry Barney, NRCS, worked on.

Bob Ball reminded the group that the Water Quality Short Course will be held April 15-17. Notify Chris Bromley as soon as possible if anyone is interested in attending.

Bob Steiert said that Region 7 is talking with DNR about the next Performance Partnership Grant (PPG). They are looking for ideas on how this money should be spent for FY04-05. Bob would like input from this group. One way might be to improve the water quality monitoring strategy. Bob mentioned that Christie Whitman announced the *4th Annual Government for Performance & Results* report is out (www.epa.gov/ocfopage). Bob also mentioned that Tracy Mehan, Director of Water, has said his priority is watersheds. He is looking for ideas. A Watershed Council has been set up to do trainings.

Becky asked about the status of the federal budget and the Watershed Initiative grants. Bob said the last he saw was that there would be \$15 million for 15 projects.

Darlene Schaben notified the group that email notifications for meetings and water-related information will be sent through an Internet listserv. The current group will not need to sign up. The sign-up page will be on the WQCC web page.

Terry Timmons mentioned a public notice that was out to do gold mining on Cedar Creek. Lori said that 800 feet of Cedar Creek is owned by the Mark Twain National Forest and they would not allow any dredging on this part. It was thought that landowners may not want their part of the stream dredged either. Becky said she received notification that the project was withdrawn.

Dick Gaffney asked if any other states have a group like our WQCC. Bob Steiert said other states use technical committees.

Priscilla Stotts informed the group that 2003 is the Year of Fresh Water (worldwide).

Bob Ball stated that Missouri will be hosting the next National Envirothon (an environmental science competition for high school students).

Meetings & Conferences

March	23-26	Missouri Water Environment Association/AWWA Joint Annual Meeting, Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach
April	15-17	Water Quality Short Course, Columbia
June	1-4	7 th Annual Missouri River Natural Resources Conference (Jeanne Heuser, USGS)